

UNDERSTANDING PROPERTY TAXES

We designed this information sheet to provide you with basic knowledge about how the Montana property tax system works. We encourage you to contact your local Department of Revenue office if you need additional information or have questions.

Property Tax Relief

How can I get property tax relief?

There are several programs available that can reduce your property taxes. If you would like information and application forms, please contact your local Department of Revenue office.

■ Property Tax Assistance Program

If you are a Montana property owner with total household income less than \$26,500, you may be eligible for reduced property taxes on your home. To find out if you qualify, contact your local Montana Department of Revenue office. The application deadline for 2009 has passed. The deadline for 2010 is April 15.

■ Extended Property Tax Assistance Program

If the taxable value of your property increased by more than 24% as a result of the 2009 reappraisal, you may be eligible for reduced property taxes on your home. If your property meets this qualification, we will send you an application asking for further information on your property taxes, property ownership and household income to determine if you qualify. We will notify you in writing to let you know if the taxable value of your property will be reduced. The application deadline for 2009 has passed. The deadline for 2010 is April 15.

■ Disabled Veterans or Spouses of Disabled Veterans

If you are a disabled veteran property owner with a 100% service related disability, or the surviving spouse of a disabled veteran, you may be eligible to claim a reduction, or a full exemption, of your Montana property taxes. To find out if you qualify, contact your local Montana Department of Revenue office. The application deadline for 2009 has passed. The deadline for 2010 is April 15.

■ Natural Disaster Tax Relief

Natural Disaster Tax Relief is available if your property has been destroyed by a natural disaster to such an extent that the improvements have been rendered unsuitable for their previous use. Natural disaster includes fire, flood, earthquake or wind.

■ Non-Fossil Energy Reduction

Using non-fossil forms of energy may qualify you for a property tax exemption. These types of energy systems include, but are not limited to, solar heat systems and ground source heat pumps. The application deadline is March 1 each year.

■ Homeowner/Renter Income Tax Credit

Montana homeowners or renters age 62 or older may qualify for a refundable income tax credit worth up to \$1,000. To see if you qualify or to file the Form 2EC online for free, please visit our website at revenue.mt.gov or call us toll free at 1-866-859-2254.

■ Reverse Annuity Mortgage Loan Program

The reverse annuity mortgage loan program is a loan available through the Montana Board of Housing, to enable Montana homeowners aged 68 or older to provide for their own in-home support. The property eligible for the loan program is owner-occupied single family dwellings and up to a four family living unit. Mobile homes/manufactured homes may be excluded, although some exceptions may apply. Contact the Montana Board of Housing for more information.